

MYCF TALKING POINTS

The Michigan Youth Corrections Facility provided Lake County with valuable jobs, taxes and revenue.

- MYCF provided 229 jobs; MYCF is by far Lake County's largest employer, having nearly double the employees of the next highest employer.
- MYCF provided nearly 10 percent of all wages earned in Lake County.
- MYCF provided more than 50 percent of Lake County's commercial/industrial taxable property.
- MYCF provided 40 percent of the entire tax base of Webber Township.
- MYCF provided 25 percent of the revenues for the Village of Baldwin's Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Lake County has lost jobs, taxes and revenue.

- Lake County lost 229 jobs.
- Lake County lost nearly 10 percent of all wages earned in the county.
- Lake County lost more than 50 percent of the county's commercial/industrial taxable property;
- Lake County lost 40 percent of Webber Township's entire tax base.
- Lake County is losing 25 percent of the village of Baldwin's Waste Water Treatment Plant revenues, which will either default on bonds or force huge rate increases on residents of the State's poorest county.

The Michigan Youth Corrections Facility is a State initiated program, designed to be constructed and operated by a private company.

- The State of Michigan invited private companies to submit competitive proposals for the construction and operation of a state prison designed for a specific population in 1996.
- The State of Michigan did not pay for the construction of the prison; it required the private contractor to pay for the prison construction costs and agreed to lease the prison from the private contractor for a term ending in 2029.

The Michigan Youth Corrections Facility has brought much-needed economic benefits to the local Lake County community.

- MYCF was the largest employer in Lake County — 229 employees, of which 119 are officers in The International Union, Security, Police & Fire Professionals of America, Local #415.
- Nearly \$9 million — two-thirds of the prison's 2004 operating budget — went for local employee wage and benefits.
- Since 1999, MYCF has paid:
 - 1.6 million for the services of local hospitals and medical providers;
 - \$5.3 million in property taxes that were distributed to Lake county schools and various other local taxing entities;
 - \$43.6 million in wages and benefits to facility employees;
 - More than \$3 million for the expansion and extension of the local water and sewer systems and more than \$2 million to local utilities for water, sewer, electricity and gas services.

- More than \$325,000 for local goods, services and supplies; and
- Thousands of dollars to local charities, including scholarships for local students.

Lake County is Michigan's poorest county:

- Lake County currently has the lowest average median household income in the state, \$26,622 — 40 percent below the State average.
- Lake County currently has a 9.3 percent unemployment rate.
- Lake County currently has the lowest per capita income in Michigan — \$14,457 — 35 percent below the State average.
- Lake County has one of the highest proportions of minority population of any county in Michigan.